KISHIMOTO *et al.*, SN 09/842,001   Dkt. 520.40043X00/NT0343US
Amdt. dated 14 Febraury 2006   Page 2
Reply to OA dated 14 November 2005

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system, comprising:

an external storage device having storage data and storage operating data and a service processor for operating said storage operating data;

a host computer coupled with said external storage device via a first connection; and

a storage management server coupled with said host computer via a second connection and said service processor via a third connection,

wherein said storage management server executes a storage operating data server program, and

wherein said host computer executes an application program associated with said storage operating data server program so as to read/write said storage operating data from/to said external storage device through said storage management server and said third connection, and wherein said host computer commands reads/writes of said storage data from/to said external storage device through said first connection.

8. (Previously Presented) The storage operating control system according to Claim 7, wherein said host computer operates in accordance with said storage operating data which the storage management server reads from said external storage device.

KISHIMOTO *et al.*, SN 09/842,001   Dkt. 520.40043X00/NT0343US
Amdt. dated 14 Febraury 2006   Page 3
Reply to OA dated 14 November 2005

9. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 7, comprising a switch for selectively shutting off said third connection between said service processor and said storage management server.

10. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 9, wherein said switch is provided in an interface of said service processor.

11. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 7, wherein said storage management server comprising a WWW (World Wide Web) terminal connection and a WWW server program to allow access of the storage operating data using the WWW terminal connection.

12. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 7, wherein communication between said host computer and said storage management server on said second connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

13. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 7, wherein communication between said service processor and said storage management server on said third connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

KISHIMOTO *et al.*, SN 09/842,001   Dkt. 520.40043X00/NT0343US
Amdt. dated 14 Febraury 2006   Page 4
Reply to OA dated 14 November 2005

14. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system, comprising:

an external storage device having storage data and configuration information and a service processor for operating said configuration information;

a host computer coupled with said external storage device via a first connection; and

a storage management server coupled with said host computer via a second connection and said service processor via a third connection,

wherein said storage management server executes a storage operating data server program, and

wherein said host computer executes an application program associated with said storage operating data server program so as to read/write said configuration information from/to said external storage device through said storage management server and said third connection, and wherein said host computer commands reads/writes of said storage data from/to said external storage device through said first connection.

15. (Previously Presented) The storage operating control system according to Claim 14, wherein said host computer operates in accordance with said configuration information which the storage management server reads from said external storage device.

KISHIMOTO *et al.*, SN 09/842,001
Amdt. dated 14 Febraury 2006
Reply to OA dated 14 November 2005

Dkt. 520.40043X00/NT0343US
Page 5

16. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 14, comprising a switch for selectively shutting off said third connection between said service processor and said storage management server.

17. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 16, wherein said switch is provided in an interface of said service processor.

18. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 14, wherein said storage management server comprising a WWW (World Wide Web) terminal connection and a WWW server program to allow access of the configuration information using the WWW terminal connection.

19. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 14, wherein communication between said host computer and said storage management server on said second connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

20. (Previously Presented) A storage operating control system as defined in the claim 14, wherein communication between said service processor and said storage management server on said third connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).